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LUPTON WOMAN INDICTED FOR INTENDING TO SELL METHAMPHETAMINE

PHOENIX - A federal grand jury returned a one-count indictment here late yesterday against Theresa Mae Charley, 41, of Lupton, Ariz., for possession with intent to distribute methamphetamine. She is currently in the custody of the U.S. Marshal's Service pending trial.

On February 1, 2006 Charley was stopped by Navajo Police Officers for a traffic violation. During a search of her vehicle, officers found a quantity methamphetamine, baggies and scales. She admitted to distributing the drug and said she had been doing so for approximately two and a half years.

A conviction for possession with intent to distribute methamphetamine carries a maximum penalty of 20 years in prison, a \$1,000,000 fine or both. In determining an actual sentence, a District Court Judge will consult the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines, which provide appropriate sentencing ranges. The judge, however, is not bound by those guidelines in determining a sentence.

An indictment is simply the method by which a person is charged with criminal activity and raises no inference of guilt. An individual is presumed innocent until competent evidence is presented to a jury that establishes guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

The investigation preceding the indictment was conducted the Navajo Department of Law Enforcement and the FBI. The prosecution is being handled by Kimberly M. Hare, Assistant U.S. Attorney, District of Arizona, Phoenix.

CASE NUMBER: CR-06-0211-PCT RELEASE NUMBER: 2006-033(Charley)